

A Parent & Spectators Guide to Improving Youth Sports



Kenmore-Tonawanda Department of Athletics

Visit us at www.kenton.k12.ny.us and click "Athletics"
Athletic Office: 874-8411 ext. 4

Dear Parents & Spectators:

Welcome to the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District and our outstanding athletic program. We thank you for making the conscious decision to have your student involved in school athletics. We are proud of our diverse program that includes over 180 teams district-wide. We believe strongly in the positive, life-altering attributes that are emphasized through participation; dedication, commitment, leadership, group goal-setting, sportsmanship, respect and responsibility, among others.

Thank you for supporting these programs and your child. We know that not all of what will occur this season and in subsequent seasons will be positive and there may be moments that challenge you and your student-athlete. We must be committed to the fact that a large measure of growth will come from failing and working through that disappointment. Let's remember who the games are for and treat not only our players, but the opponent, referees, other spectators and coaches with respect.

Please review the material in this flyer and let's enjoy the opportunity. We all know how fleeting this experience is. Let's all agree to help to make it a positive, unforgettable time in the lives of these young athletes.

Thank you,

Brett A. Banker

Supervisor of Physical Education, Recreation & Athletics

Jeff Roth

Assistant Supervisor of Physical Education, Recreation & Athletics



The Niagara Frontier League (NFL)

All five of our secondary schools compete proudly in the Niagara Frontier League (NFL). The NFL has been in existence since 1937 and we in Kenmore are honored to be one of the founding members. Current league members Lockport, Niagara Falls and North Tonawanda also date back to the original group of schools. The original Kenmore High School (located at the current Kenmore Middle School) competed in the league as

Visit us at www.kenton.k12.ny.us and click "Athletics"
Athletic Office: 874-8411 ext. 4

the lone Kenmore school, now Kenmore West until 1959 when Kenmore East also joined. Grand Island ('79), Lewiston-Porter ('61) and Niagara Wheatfield ('65) are current league members.

The NFL is highly regarded throughout Western New York and is well known for its history, traditions, ethical practices, upstanding administrators, commitment to sportsmanship, high eligibility standards, the Student Advisory Council and rivals that respect each other. We are proud of these ideals and will do everything in our power to build on them.



Conduct of all involved in the Extracurricular Athletic Program

As parents, when your children become involved in Kenmore-Tonawanda UFSD Athletic Program, you have the right to know what expectations have been placed on your son or daughter.

- Parents, coaches, players, and fans should know that participation is an honor and privilege which requires them to conduct themselves in a manner that brings honor and pride to their school and Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda community.
- Interscholastic competition provides valuable lessons and learning experiences that are not possible in the regular classroom setting. All involved must support the need to develop the ability to compete with enthusiasm and to accept winning with grace and losing with dignity.
- A genuine interest in and enjoyment of interscholastic competition requires conduct that reflects the understanding that contests, as a part of the overall school program are intended to be enjoyed.
- Respect for the cultural and ethnic diversity of one's opponents, their school, and community is a fundamental tenet of wholesome athletic competition. This standard suggests that planned activity is needed to demonstrate a warm and friendly welcome, mutual respect, and a genuine readiness to participate in a sportsmanlike manner.
- Players should demonstrate both knowledge of the rules and respect for game officials and their decisions. Coaches and school officials have the responsibility to teach and encourage these attributes.

Visit us at www.kenton.k12.ny.us and click "Athletics"
Athletic Office: 874-8411 ext. 4



Kenmore-Tonawanda UFSD Expectations

Ken-Ton strives to encourage good sportsmanship throughout our athletic program, and this includes good behavior during athletic contests. We expect all players, coaches, and spectators at our contests to be respectful of players, coaches, supervisors, officials, and other spectators.

Fans are encouraged to applaud the efforts of their team and should not engage in any behavior that is distracting or derogatory towards opponents or officials. We believe it is imperative to let the players, coaches, and officials play the game. Fans can be an asset for their team by supporting and cheering good play, but the Kenmore-Tonawanda UFSD will not permit any behavior that detracts from the proper conduct of the game or that disadvantages a player or team.

- Treat all visitor to contest as you would treat guests in your home
- Use only cheers that support and uplift the team
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials
- Do not throw any objects onto the playing surface at any time
- Do not engage in the use of controlled substances before, during, or after the games

Spectators Expectations

The team bench or team sideline area is off limits to all spectators. Only authorized school personnel are permitted. (Example: statisticians, clock operators, trainers, media, managers.) The school reserves the right to remove any spectator from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct or behavior. The school also reserves the right to refuse attendance to those whose conduct is not appropriate to the spirit of good sportsmanship. Sportsmanship is the responsibility of all people involved in the Kenmore Town of Tonawanda School District. Let us all join together in helping each other make Ken-Ton Athletics what it was intended to be – a physical and emotional growing experience.

Visit us at www.kenton.k12.ny.us and click "Athletics"
Athletic Office: 874-8411 ext. 4

Communication Expectations

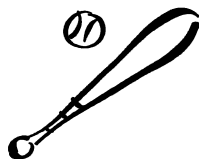
Parenting and coaching can be both challenging and rewarding. By establishing a clear understanding both parties involved can learn to respect and accept the actions of the other. This, in turn, will ultimately lead to greater benefits for our students. This begins with clear communication between the Athletic Department, the coaches, and the parents.

Communication you should expect from the Athletic Department

1. Information explaining the philosophy and policies of the Kenton Athletic Department.
2. Required forms to be completed by the parents and athletes to allow participation in our athletic program.
3. Help in answering any parent questions or concerns about our Athletic Department policies.

Communication you should expect from your son/daughter's coach

1. Philosophy of the coach
2. Expectations the coach has for your son or daughter
3. Locations and times of all practices and contests
4. Team rules and requirements
5. Notification of injury or disciplinary action



Communication your coach should expect from parents

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach with your son/daughter's knowledge.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.
3. Specific concern in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.
4. Support towards the commitment of the program.
5. Respect for the difficult job of coaching.

Visit us at www.kenton.k12.ny.us and click "Athletics"
Athletic Office: 874-8411 ext. 4

Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches

1. The treatment of your son or daughter mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your son or daughter grow athletically and personally.
3. Concerns about your son or daughter's behavior or attitude.

Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches

1. Playing time.
2. Team strategy.
3. Play calling.
4. Other student-athletes.

The next step

If you or your son/daughter has appropriate questions or concerns, we encourage you to take the following steps:

1. Encourage your son/daughter to talk candidly with the coach expressing questions and concerns at a time convenient to both your child and the coach.
2. If, as a parent, you still have questions or concerns, you should contact the coach personally and arrange an appointment to talk.
3. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest of practice. These can be emotional times for both parent and coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolutions.
4. The final step is to contact the athletic administration and discuss the situation to determine any appropriate action. Any questions you have should be directed to the athletic administration (716) 874-8411 ext. 4.



Visit us at www.kenton.k12.ny.us and click "Athletics"
Athletic Office: 874-8411 ext. 4

Niagara Frontier League

Code of Conduct for Parents, Spectators & Fans

I Will Always

Respect the decision of the officials

I Will Be

Supportive and keep my comments positive

I Will Never

Do anything to deter the players' love of the game

I Will Refrain

From entering the field of play during or immediately after the contest for safety reasons

I Will Never

Use profanity or physically attack a person, player, coach, or official

I Will Do

Everything in my power to negate trash talking! It's NOT a health part of interscholastic athletics

I Recognize

The emotional & physical well-being of the players is first, before my desire to win

I Will Encourage

A safe and healthy environment for both teams

I Will Remind Myself

That the game is for the kids & not the adults

We, the Student-Athletes of the Niagara Frontier League,

Sincerely hope that IF all the parents, spectators, and fans can follow & abide by these rules, the GAME will be much more enjoyable for all

Visit us at www.kenton.k12.ny.us and click "Athletics"
Athletic Office: 874-8411 ext. 4

**FRANKLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL
FALCONS**

**HOOVER MIDDLE SCHOOL
DRAGONS**

**KENMORE MIDDLE SCHOOL
JAGUARS**

*Please don't curse that boy down there;
He is my son, you see;
He's only just a boy you know,
He means the world to me.*

*I did not raise my son, dear fan,
For you to call him names;
He may not be a superstar,
And these are high school games*

*So, please don't knock those boys down there;
They do the best they can.
They've never tried to lose a game;
They're boys and you're a man.*

*This game belongs to them, you see;
You're really just a guest.
They do not need a fan that gripes,
They need the very best.*

*If you have nothing nice to say,
Please leave the boys alone.
And, if you've forgot your manners,
Why don't you stay home!*

*So, please don't curse those boys down there;
Each one's his parents' son.
And win or lose or tie, you see,
To us, they're Number One!*

**KENMORE EAST HIGH SCHOOL
BULLDOGS**

**KENMORE WEST HIGH SCHOOL
BLUE DEVILS**

Visit us at www.kenton.k12.ny.us and click "Athletics"
Athletic Office: 874-8411 ext. 4